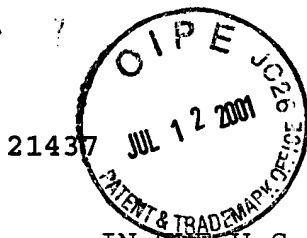


07-13-01

RECEIVED

JUL 17 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900



IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor

Bernd EIKMANN et al

Patent App.

09/529,043 (US Nat'l phase of PCT/EP98/06210)

Filed

3 April 2000

For

METHOD FOR MICROBIAL PRODUCTION OF AMINO ACIDS  
OF THE ASPARTATE AND/OR GLUTAMATE FAMILY AND  
AGENTS WHICH CAN BE USED IN SAID METH

Art Unit

1652

Examiner Steadman, D

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

GP11652

Certificate of Express or First-Class Mailing

I hereby certify that I have deposited this correspondence with the US Postal Service as first-class or, if a mailing-label number is given below, as express mail addressed to Comm. of Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on the below-given date.

JUL 12 2001

EL842185157

Express-mail label number

Signature

#### AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed 15 June 2001,  
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

#### IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 18 through 31.

Add the following claims:

1 38. An isolated pyruvate-carboxylase gene coding for  
2 the amino acid sequence given under SEQ ID No. 2 and /or a nucleo-  
3 tide sequence coding for its allele variations.

cl 1 39. The isolated pyruvate-carboxylase gene according to  
2 claim 38 with the nucleotide sequence of nucleotides 165 to 3587  
3 according to SEQ ID No. 1 or a substantially identically-effective  
4 DNA sequence.